



## **Information about the COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) FOR HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE RESIDENTS**

**Hidden Valley Lake Board of Directors  
Patricia Hawkins, President**

**Section I THE FACTS ABOUT COVID-19**

**Section II RESOURCES TO INCREASE YOUR  
UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE OF  
COVID-19 AND ITS IMPACT**

**Section III HERE IN HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE**



## **SECTION I - THE FACTS ABOUT COVID-19**

As promised, we have compiled a comprehensive document which gives facts about COVID-19 (the coronavirus), resources for you to consult, and what specific steps we are taking in Hidden Valley Lake to best safeguard the health of our residents.

### **Facts about the virus itself and its current impact in Indiana:**

- COVID-19 is short for Coronavirus Disease 2019. It is part of a family of viruses that can cause mild to moderate upper respiratory tract illnesses such as the common cold and more serious conditions such as SARS.
- It is spread via close contact (generally within six feet) when respiratory droplets produced by the coughs or sneezes of an infected person land in the mouth or nose of a nearby person or are inhaled into the lungs. It can also spread through contact with a surface or object that has been contaminated by the virus.
- While anyone can be infected with this virus, some groups are at greater risk – older adults and people with chronic medical issues such as heart disease, diabetes, or lung diseases.
- As of this writing, there have been fifteen (15) confirmed presumptive positive cases in the State of Indiana. Those affected were primarily adults. Two were hospitalized. The others isolated themselves.

### **Facts about protecting yourself against the virus:**

- There is no vaccine for this virus. There are extensive efforts to develop one, but it is not likely that one would be available for many months.
- With a vaccine not available, we must depend on non-pharmaceutical measures to slow the spread of this illness.

•These measures include:

- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Do not shake hands.
- Stay home if you exhibit any sign of illness.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or bent arm – discard tissue immediately.
- Wash your hands often, especially after using the bathroom, coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces regularly with anti-bacterial sprays or wipes.
- Masks should be worn by anyone with symptoms of the coronavirus, health care workers, and those caring for confirmed or suspected sufferers.

## **SECTION II - RESOURCES TO INCREASE YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE OF COVID-19 AND ITS IMPACT**

### **At the global/national level:**

- The Johns Hopkins Hospital website, [www.hopkinsmedicine.org](http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org), gives you much information about all aspects of the illness and has a link to information from the World Health Organization.
- The Center for Disease Control (CDC) website is also an excellent resource to help you understand the symptoms of this illness and the precautionary measures you can take. It can be accessed at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

### **At the state level:**

- Indiana's Governor Eric Holcomb has announced the actions that will be taken across the state to minimize the spread of the coronavirus. His message is provided here:



Colleagues,

As the country continues to respond to Novel Coronavirus, more commonly known as COVID-19, I am working closely with Dr. Box and her team at the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) as well as other state agencies that are playing key roles to coordinate state efforts. We are in frequent contact with federal and local officials as well as numerous employers and those running large events to stay on top of concerns and update guidance.



I am committed to ensuring we maintain a safe and healthy workplace for you. At the same time, our job is to provide essential government services that Hoosiers need now more than ever. Here are updates to our state operations:

- Beginning today, all official out-of-state and international travel will be limited for the next 45 days. Exceptions will be made for essential travel. Please discuss with your manager and HR to determine if your travel is essential.
- Follow the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and U.S. State Department guidance for your personal travel plans. We know spring break activities are beginning, and we advise you to be cautious.
- The CDC and State Department also have advised Americans to avoid traveling on cruise ships.
- Please ensure you keep your work stations clean, wash your hands frequently, and disinfect common areas.
- Employees are encouraged to stay home when they are ill. This is not a change from current practice.
- [Please review the attached guidance](#) from the Indiana State Personnel Department (INSPD) regarding the use of accrued leave and other workforce related guidance.
- Agencies may review remote work options for employees as appropriate for limited durations while ensuring that normal levels of service are available.

Please discuss questions and concerns with your manager and local HR representative. INSPD has also established a call center within the Employee Relations Division at 1-855-773-4647, Option 4 that is available during normal work hours for additional assistance.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and we will keep you informed as developments occur. Thank you for your efforts to provide excellent government service during this uncertain time.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric J. Holcomb".

Eric J. Holcomb

- The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) website, [www.in.gov/coronavirus](http://www.in.gov/coronavirus), gives you specifics about the state's response and information about how many residents have been affected and where they live.

### **At the county level:**

- The Dearborn County Health Department maintains close contact with the ISDH and the CDC and will update county residents, as appropriate.
- Health Department officials are working diligently to secure face masks and N95 respirators and other personal protective equipment.
- The Health Department has also established a hotline with information for the public. It can be accessed at (812) 532-3278.
- Dearborn County Preparedness resources are available to answer your questions about the coronavirus. They are:
  - John Blackwell - Coordinator (812) 532-3277
  - Cassandra Dick- Public Health Nurse (812) 537-8843
  - Kendra Overting-Cendro – Public Health Nurse (812) 537-8844

### **SECTION III - Here in Hidden Valley Lake:**

Our plan is to not only meet, but exceed, the guidelines set forth by the CDC and the State of Indiana. Specifically:

- Effective immediately and through the governor's 30-day restrictive period (through April 12), there will be no meetings or POA-sanctioned events within Hidden Valley Lake. The list of events affected includes, but is not limited to, committee and club meetings, the community-wide yard sale, and the sluice gate closing celebration. While few, if any, of these events would have attendance in excess of the governor's 250 person maximum, the Board of Directors, after consulting with our Safety, Security, and Elections Committee, has chosen to err on the side of caution.

- There may be some meeting organizers who believe that getting their group together in this restrictive period is imperative. For those organizers, Rich Gannon will set up teleconferencing. If you are interested in this option, please contact Rich at (812) 537-3091, Extension 7 or [richhvlpoa@gmail.com](mailto:richhvlpoa@gmail.com).
- Our POA office staff of six individuals is quite small, and we have no current plans to close the office. As such, the office will remain open and functioning. We will increase our cleaning to meet or exceed CDC guidelines and will convey to employees that they must stay home if they feel ill. We will notify you if this changes.
- Willie's will remain open. We have been in constant contact with Steve Van Wassenhove at Willie's about the challenges posed by this virus. The cleaning protocols he has outlined for us meet or exceed those set by the CDC and he has communicated to his staff the importance of staying home when ill. Carryout is always available and we encourage folks who aren't comfortable dining in to place a take-out order and pick it up. Door Dash is also available.
- The Friday Fish Fry events at the golf club will no longer have a dine-in option but the food will be available for carry-out. We are working on a process for residents to easily order and pick up food and will communicate that process to you as soon as it is finalized.
- The golf course and snack bar will continue to stay open. We will notify you if that changes.
- We recognize that we may have some residents who are elderly and/or in compromised health. They might require help with meals, errand running, etc. and not have family or friends who can help them. We plan to set up voice and email inboxes to take requests from both those individuals who need help and volunteers who are willing to help. The POA will match a volunteer to the need. We will send out details about the voice and email inboxes shortly. Please do not hesitate to call if you need help or if you are willing to assist.

The board realizes that the media coverage of this virus is unrelenting and overwhelming and that it is affecting all of us. **We will get through this!** Not only will we get through this, we will be stronger and will once again prove that Hidden Valley Lake is a community where we care for, and about, each other.

*HVL Board of Directors, Patricia Hawkins*